Claims

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A circuit ~~arrangement with which~~ for testing a communication system that is subdivided into functional layers ~~is processable by a first layer for a higher layer and/or by a higher layer for the first layer, the first layer being formed by a physical layer, comprising at least one~~ comprises a port ~~which~~ that allows ~~a~~ communication by a test apparatus directly with ~~a~~ any layer that is higher than ~~the~~ a first layer of the functional layers without the communication previously having to pass through the first layer.

Claim 2. (Original) The circuit arrangement according to claim 1 wherein the functional layers correspond to an OSI reference model.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The circuit arrangement according to ~~one of~~ claims 1 or 2 wherein the communication comprises ~~the step of inputting~~ data input into and/or data output from the ~~at least one~~ port ~~and/or outputting data from the at least one port~~.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The circuit arrangement according to claim 3 wherein ~~the~~ processing of the communication is realized on a single chip, with the port being provided on the chip.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The circuit arrangement according to claim 3 wherein ~~the~~ processing of the communication is realized on a first chip and the port is on a second chip, the first and second chips being linked with each other for data transfer.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) A method for testing a switch for a telecommunication network that is subdivided into functional layers comprising the steps of:

provided the switch with a circuit arrangement with which a communication that is subdivided into functional layers is processable by a first layer for a higher layer and/or by a higher layer for the first layer, the first layer being formed by a physical layer and the circuit arrangement featuring at least one having a port which that allows a communication by a test apparatus directly with a any layer that is higher than the a first layer of the functional layers without the communication previously having to pass through the first layer;

outputting response data from the at least one port to the test apparatus; and

analyzing of the output response data by the test apparatus.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 7 further comprising the step of inputting the test data into the at least one port before the outputting step.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) The method according to one of claims 7 or 8 wherein the input test data comprise a stimulation signal.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9 wherein the output response data comprise a response to the stimulation signal.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9 6 wherein the output response data comprise a monitoring signal.